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Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /061 W
---------- 075741
R 101655Z MAR 76
FM AMCONSUL OPORTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 812
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
DIA WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PO
SUBJ: OPORTO MEETING OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS

REF: OPORTO 0094 (DTG 011525Z MAR 76)(NOTAL)

1. LOCAL PRESS TODAY PROVIDED FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING MAR 13/14 MEETING OF EUROPEAN SOCIALIST LEADERS IN OPORTO. CULTURAL SHOW WILL PRECEDE EVENING RALLY AT OPORTO'S CRYSTAL PALACE MAR 13 FOLLOWED BY SPEECHES OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS AND KEY-NOTE ADDRESS BY PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST (PS) LEADER MARIO SOARES. DELEGATES WILL THEN RETIRE TO LUXURY HOTEL IN NORTHERN SEASIDE RESORT OF POVOA DE VARZIM WHERE BUSINESS SESSIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED MAR 14
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ALLOWING AMPLE TIME FOR PRESS AND TV COVERAGE. ACTITIVIES WILL

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END WITH MAR 14 PRESS CONFERENCE AND DINNER ALSO ATTENDED BY PRIME MINISTER PINHEIRO DA AZEVEDO AT OPORTO STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING.

2. IN ADDITION TO THOSE PARTICIPANTS AS REPORTED REFTEL, OTHER DELEGATES INCLUDE MARTTI MIETUNEN OF FINLAND, NORWAY'S ODVER NORDLL AND REINLF STEEN, ANDE COOLS FROM BELGIUM AND JAMES CALLAGHAN REPRESENTING BRITISH LABOR PARTY.

3. IN HEAD-LINE STEALING ATTEMPT, POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) HAS SCHEDULED OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATION MARCH 13 IN DOWNTOWN OPORTO WITH PARTICIPATION OF PPD LEADER SA CARNEIRO. LOCAL PPD ACTIVISTS ARE ALREADY PLUGGING RALLY TO ENSURE HEAVY PARTICIPATION. FURTHER COMPLICATING THE SCENE IS POSSIBLE MARCH 13 WORK STOPPAGE AND DEMONSTRATION BY RETAIL TRADE UNION WHICH PROVOKED THE LAST TIME A FLURRY OF FIST FIGHTS IN COMMERICAL DISTRICT.

4. COMMENT: PS APPEARS TO BE GOING ALL OUT TO MAXIMIZE IMPACT OF THE MEETING WITH HEAVY PRESS AND TV COVERAGE, CULTURAL GALA AND EVEN LATE HOUR FIREWORKS SHOW. THIS WILL FUEL CHARGES BY RIVAL PARTIES OF ELECTION INTERFERENCE. PENNER

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